THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : No permission is given. Only on railways !

That matter is over. आप बैठ जाइए. . .(व्यवधान)

DR. BIPLAB DASGUPTA : We protest and we walk out.

(At this stage, some hon. Members left the Chamber)

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1. **THE BUDGET (RAILWAYS), 1994-95.**

2. **RESOLUTION APPROVING RECOMMENDATIONS IN PARAS 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 AND 34 OF FIFTH REPORT OF RAILWAY CONVENTION COMMITTEE, 1991.**

3. **THE APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) NO. 2 BILL, 1994**

AND

4. **THE APPROPRIATION (RAILWAYS) NO. 3 BILL, 1994.**

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Now we are discussing the Railways. Will everybody sit down, please ?

श्री सुन्दर सिंह भण्डारी (राजस्थान) : सरकार की तरफ से तो स्टेटमेंट आना चाहिए। . . . . . (व्यवधान)

उपसभापति : कोलिए मंत्री जी। आप नहीं थे इसलिए मंत्री जी को रोक कर रखा है। . . . . . (व्यवधान)

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : Madam, the Railway Budget and the Demand for Grants of the Ministry of Railway for 1994-95 are already before the House.

Now I would like to move the following Resolution . . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI : Madam, there should be order in the House.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : It was started by you by walking out. The disorder is spilling over here also.

. . *(Interruptions)*

SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI : I must know what he is speaking.

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) : यह क्या फातिहा पढ़ रहे हैं, कुछ समझ में नहीं आ रहा है। कृपया माइक में बोलें।

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : Madam, I beg to move:

> "That this House approves the recommendations made in paragraphs 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 34 contained in the Fifth Report of Railway Convention Committee, 1991, appointed to review the rate of dividend payable by the Railway Undertaking to general Revenues etc., which was laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha on 23.2.1994".

Madam, by a resolution adopted in the Lok Sabha on 16th September, 1991 and concurred in by Rajya Sabha on 17th September, 1991, the Railway Convention Committee, 1991 was constituted on 25th November, 1991. The Committee was appointed "to review the rate of dividend which is at present payable by the Railway Undertaking to General Revenues as well as other Ancillary Matters in connection with the Railway Finance *vis-a-vis* the General Finance and make recommendations thereon".

The Ministry of Railways submitted an interim Memorandum requesting the Committee to permit the rate of dividend of 7%, as recommended by Committee in their Third Report, being reduced in the year 1993-94 to the same rates as obtaining in 1992-93, duly continuing the existing concessions, and the Railway finances being exempted from payment of any dividend in 1994-95 keeping in view the financial health of the Railways, pending final recommendations for the VIII Plan for which Memorandum to the Committee has also been submitted.

The Committee have, however, reiterated their previous recommendation for payment of dividend at the rate of 7% for the year 1993-94 on the entire Capital invested on the Railways and have recommended the same basis for the year 1994-95 as an interim measure. In making this

recommendation, the Committee have taken the view that there is sufficient scope left for Railways to effect further economy and improve their operational efficiency. Other concessions available have been provisionally allowed to continue. The Budget Estimates for 1994-95 have in fact been framed on the same basis as adopted for the year 1993-94 in the Revised Estimates.

Provision for the Depreciation Reserve Fund in 1994-95 for which the Committee have agreed with the proposal of the Railways to provide Rs. 2700 crores subject to minor adjustments in view of the size of the Annual Plan and capacity to generate internal resources, has been made at Rs. 2300 crores. For the Pension Fund, the proposal of the Railways was Rs. 1690 crores to be provided in 1994-95, and the provision made in the Budget is Rs. 1700 crores.

Interest on the balances in the various Railway Funds has been estimated on the basis of the Committee's recommendation.

Madam, the Railways are already known for maintaining a high degree of transparency in respect of their day to day working, problems and issues. The institution of Consultative Committees has greatly contributed to making this transparency effective. I have also constituted several Sub-Groups of the Consultative Committee to look into, and advise on, specific matters of interest, from time to time. Lately, the Standing Committee on Railways has been appointed, on regular basis, to examine various aspects of the Railway Budget, relating to the Demands of Grants. Certain degree of duplication in the scope of work of various Parliamentary Committees, especially between the Railway Convention Committee and the Standing Committee, has come to light, which needs to be remedied. With that end in view, I would commend for consideration of the Honourable Members of the House that the scope of work of the Railway Convention Committee may, henceforth, be confined to the Report/Recommendation on the Rate of Dividend payable by the Railways to the General Revenues.

With these words I commend the Resolution for the consideration of this House.

I also move :

> "That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 1994-95 for the purpose of Railways, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

I also move :

> "That the Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services for the purposes of Railways during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March, 1991 in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year, as passed by the Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The questions were proposed.

उपसभापति : मण्डारी जी, आपको बोलना है पर अभी सिर्फ 4 मिनट रह गए हैं। तो मेरा ख्याल है कि आप लंच के बाद बोलिएगा।

SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA (Karnataka) : I am on a point of information. Why as a special case the Railways have come in the form of a Resolution. I want to know this. I am asking this because there will be various reports. In some there will be a number of recommendations. Some recommendations they accept and implement and action taken reports are given. Why in this case a deviations is made and it has come for approval in the form of a Resolution ? In the Minister's statement also nowhere has it been explained. I want to know about it as a procedure.

उपसभापति : आप रेज़ोल्यूशन क्यों लाए हैं, वह पूछ रहे हैं।

SHRI C.K. JAFFER SHARIEF : It is the general practice. The way it is presented in the Lok Sabha, the same way it is being presented here also.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Whatever way is being followed in the Lok Sabha is also being followed here. We cannot have two different ways of discussions on the Railways.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : लोकसभा के मामले की चर्चा आप यहां कैसे कर रहे हैं ?